In the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.   (Withdrawn) A method for automatically configuring a network appliance, comprising the steps of:
downloading data from an HTML page accessed during a session;
parsing the HTML code of said downloaded data to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany said action;
transmitting configuration information to said appliance; and
configuring said appliance with said configuration information in accordance with said action.

2-16. (Canceled).

17.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:
a communications device to communicate with a network server;
an information writer to write information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of one or more special tags within a web page using said configurable network appliance;
an interface to upload said web page to the network server and access said web page on the network server with said network appliance, said web page having stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance contained within a second set of one or more special tags;
a parser to parse said stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

a configurer to configure the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory in said network appliance in accordance with said action.

18.   (Withdrawn) The network appliance of claim 17 further comprising:

a profile creator to create a profile containing a plurality of configuration information;

a memory to store said profile in said local non-volatile configuration memory; and

means for using said profile during said configuring.

19.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

a communications device to communicate with a network server;

an information writer to write information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of one or more special tags within a web page using said configurable network appliance;

an interface to upload said web page to the network server and access said web page on the network server with said network appliance to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance contained within a second set of one or more special tags;

a receiver to receive said stored information with the network appliance;

a parser to parse the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

a configurer to configure the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

20.   (Withdrawn) The network appliance of claim 19 further comprising:

a profile creator to create a profile containing a plurality of configuration information;

a memory to store said profile in said local non-volatile configuration memory; and

means for using said profile during said configuring.

21.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

a communications device to communicate with a network server;

an information writer to write information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of one or more special tags within a web page using said configurable network appliance;

an interface to upload said web page to the network server and access said web page on the network server with said network appliance within a second set of one or more special tags;

a receiver to download said web page to the network appliance;

a reader to read a configuration value for a parameter of the network appliance from a non-volatile memory associated with the network appliance; and

a configuration writer to write the configuration value to a storage device associated with the web page.

22.   (Withdrawn) The network appliance of claim 21, further comprising:

a profile creator to create a profile containing a plurality of configuration information;

a memory to store said profile in said local non-volatile configuration memory; and

means for using said profile during said configuring.

23.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network apparatus, comprising:

a non-volatile memory to store a plurality of configuration information;

a profile creator to create a profile having said plurality of configuration information;

a data telecommunications device to communicate with a network server;

an interface to access a web page on the network server and retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network apparatus;

a parser to parse the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

a configurer responsive to the profile, the action and the identified configuration information to configure the network apparatus by writing the configuration information derived from the stored information into said non-volatile memory.

24.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the configuration information is accessible to the network server to provide customized services to the network apparatus in accordance to the profile.

25.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the profile comprises an option feature.

26.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the option feature comprises a security scheme to prevent unauthorized modifications to the profile.

27.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the option feature comprises a monitoring module that checks a feature on the network apparatus and alerts a user when said web page contains an upgrade to the profile.

28.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the profile comprises a support feature.

29.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the support feature is call waiting.

30.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the support feature is call forwarding.

31.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the support feature is last call returned.

32.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the support feature is email checking.

33.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the profile comprises a settings feature.

34.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the setting feature is an Internet Service Provider telephone number stored in the non-volatile memory.

35.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the setting feature is a user identification stored in the non-volatile memory.

36.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the user identification storage comprises a user name, a user street address, a user zip code, and a user telephone number stored in the non-volatile memory.

37.   (Withdrawn)   A configurable network apparatus, comprising:

a non-volatile memory to store a plurality of configuration information;

a data telecommunication device to communicate with a network server;

an interface to access a web page stored on the network server, the web page having a link to stored information for configuring a parameter of the network apparatus;

a parser to receive and parse the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

a configurer to write configuration information derived from the stored information into said non-volatile memory in accordance with said action.

38.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the configuration information is accessible to the network server to provide customized services to the network apparatus in accordance to the profile.

39.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the profile comprises an option feature.

40.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the option feature comprises a security scheme to prevent unauthorized modifications to the profile.

41.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the option feature comprises a monitoring module to check the version of a feature on the network apparatus and alerts a user when said web page contains an upgrade to the profile.

42.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the profile comprises a support feature.

43.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the support feature is call waiting.

44.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the support feature is call forwarding.

45.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the support feature is last call returned.

46.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the support feature is email checking.

47.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the profile comprises a settings feature.

48.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the setting feature is an Internet Service Provider telephone number stored in the non-volatile memory.

49.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the setting feature is a user identification stored in the non-volatile memory.

50.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the user identification storage comprises a user name, a user street address, a user zip code, and a user telephone number stored in the non-volatile memory.

51.   (Withdrawn)   A configurable network appliance, comprising:
        means for establishing a telecommunication session with a network server;
        means for writing information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of one or more special tags within a web page using said network appliance;
        means for uploading said web page to the network server;

means for accessing said web page stored on the network server with the network appliance, the web page having stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance contained within a second set of one or more special tags;

means for receiving said stored information with the network appliance;

means for parsing said stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

means for configuring the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

52. (Withdrawn) The configurable network appliance of claim 51, further comprising:

means for creating a profile containing a plurality of configuration information;

means for storing said profile in local non-volatile configuration memory; and

means for using said profile during said configuring.

53. (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

means for establishing a telecommunication session with a network server;

means for writing information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of one or more special tags within a web page using said network appliance;

means for uploading said web page to the network server;

means for accessing said web page stored on the network server with the network appliance to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance contained within a second set of one or more special tags;

means for receiving said stored information with the network appliance;

means for parsing the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

means for configuring the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

54.   (Withdrawn)   The configurable network appliance of claim 53, further comprising:

        means for creating a profile containing a plurality of configuration information;

        means for storing said profile in local non-volatile configuration memory; and

        means for using said profile during said configuring.

55.   (Withdrawn)   A configurable network appliance, comprising:

        means for establishing a telecommunication session with a network server;

        means for writing information regarding said configurable network appliance within a

first set of one or more special tags within a web page using said network appliance;

        means for uploading said web page to the network server;

        means for accessing said web page stored on the network server with the network

appliance contained within a second set of one or more special tags;

        means for downloading the web page to the network appliance;

        means for reading a configuration value for a parameter of the network appliance from a

non-volatile memory associated with the network appliance; and

        means for writing the configuration value to a storage device associated with the web

page.

56.   (Withdrawn)   The configurable network appliance of claim 55, further comprising:

        means for creating a profile containing a plurality of configuration information;

        means for storing said profile in local non-volatile configuration memory; and

        means for using said profile during said configuring.

57.   (Withdrawn)   A configurable network appliance, comprising:

        means for creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information

for the network appliance;

        means for storing the profile in the local non-volatile configuration memory of the

network appliance;

        means for establishing a telecommunications session with a network server;

means for writing information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of one or more special tags within a web page using said network appliance;

means for uploading said web page to the network server;

means for accessing said web page stored on the network server with the network appliance contained within a second set of one or more special tabs to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance;

means for receiving the stored information with the network appliance;

means for parsing the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action;

means for reading the profile; and

means for configuring the network appliance in accordance with the profile by writing the configuration information derived from the stored information into the local non-volatile configuration memory for the network appliance in accordance with said action.

58. (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

a non-volatile memory;

a profile stored in said non-volatile memory, the profile containing profile information and a flag indicating whether the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries;

a communications device to receive telecommunications from a network server;

an interface to access a web page on the network server;

means for activating a link of the web page, said means for activating causing a query for particular information contained in the profile information; and

means for transmitting the particular information automatically from the profile information stored in said non-volatile memory to the network server if the flag indicates that the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries.

59. (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

a non-volatile memory having stored therein a profile of the network appliance, the

profile containing profile information and a flag indicating whether the profile information may

be used to automatically respond to queries;

a data telecommunications device to receive communications from a network server; and

an interface to access a web page of the network server and activate a link of the web

page so as to call up an information form, said browser automatically reading the profile

information stored in said non-volatile memory and using it to complete said information form if

the flag indicates that the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries.

60.   (Withdrawn)   A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a

program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for configuring a

configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing configuration

information, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network

server;

writing information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of

one or more special tags within a web page using said network appliance;

uploading said web page to the network server;

accessing said web page stored on the network server, the web page having stored

information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance contained within a second

set of one or more special tags;

receiving said stored information with the network appliance;

parsing the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to

accompany the action;

configuring the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the

stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in

accordance with said action.

61.   (Withdrawn)   A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a

program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for configuring a

configurable network appliance having a local non-volatile memory for storing configuration information, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunication session between the network appliance and a network server;

writing information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of one or more special tags within a web page using said network appliance;

uploading said web page to the network server;

accessing said web page stored on the network server with the network appliance to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance contained within a second set of one or more special tags;

receiving said stored information with the network appliance;

parsing the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

configuring the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

62.   (Withdrawn)   A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for uploading configuration information from a configurable network appliance to a network server, the appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing configuration information, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and the network server;

writing information regarding said configurable network appliance within a first set of one or more special tags within a web page suing said network appliance;

uploading said web page to the network server;

accessing said web page stored on the network server with the network appliance contained within a second set of one or more special tags;

downloading the web page to the network appliance;

reading a configuration value for a parameter of the network appliance from a local non-volatile memory associated with the network appliance; and

writing the configuration value to a storage device associated with the web page.

63.   (Withdrawn)   A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for configuring a configurable network appliance having a local non-volatile memory for storing configuration information, said method comprising:

creating a profile containing a plurality of configuration information for the network appliance;

storing the profile in the local non-volatile memory;

establishing a telecommunication session with a network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance;

receiving the stored information with the network appliance;

parsing the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action;

reading the profile; and

configuring the network appliance in accordance with the profile by writing the configuration information derived from the stored information into the local non-volatile memory in accordance with said action.

64.   (Previously Presented) A method for updating firmware of a configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing firmware, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having links to current firmware for the network appliance stored on a network storage device;

determining the version of firmware stored on the appliance;

receiving at the network appliance a later version of the firmware if a later version of firmware is available via the web page; and

storing the later version in the local non-volatile memory.

65. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 64, wherein said determining includes:

obtaining a version identification corresponding to a firmware component currently available on the network storage device from the network server;

obtaining a version identification corresponding to the firmware component currently stored in local non-volatile memory of the network appliance; and

determining at the network appliance if the firmware component available on the network storage device is more current than the firmware component stored in local non-volatile memory of the network appliance.

66. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 64, wherein said determining includes:

sending a version identification corresponding to a firmware component currently stored in local non-volatile memory from the network appliance to the network server; and

determining at the server if the identified version has been superceded.

67. (Previously Presented) A method for updating firmware of a configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing a configuration profile and firmware, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

transmitting firmware revision information from the network appliance to the network server;

receiving a communication from the network server indicating the availability of a firmware upgrade; and ·

automatically receiving the firmware upgrade if the configuration profile permits such automatic reception.

68. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 67, further comprising:

presenting a user of the network appliance with an option to accept the firmware upgrade if the configuration profile does not permit automatic downloading.

69. (Withdrawn) A method for transmitting information from a network appliance to a network server, said method comprising:

configuring a profile stored in non-volatile memory of the network appliance, the profile containing profile information;

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page of the network server;

activating a link of the web page, said activating calling up a web form requiring filling in; and

transmitting data automatically from the profile information stored in the non-volatile memory of the network appliance in response to said activating so as to fill in at least a portion of said web form.

70. (Withdrawn) A method for transmitting information from a network appliance to a network server, said method comprising:

configuring a profile stored in non-volatile memory of the network appliance, the profile containing profile information and a flag indicating whether the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries;

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page of the network server;

activating a link of the web page, said activating causing a query for particular information contained in the profile information to be sent to the network appliance; and

transmitting the particular information automatically from the profile information stored in the non-volatile memory if the flag indicates that the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries.

71.   (Withdrawn) A method for obtaining a capability upgrade for a configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing upgrade-related information, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having a link to capability upgrade-related information stored on a network storage device;

accessing said link;

receiving from the network server and storing in the local non-volatile memory of the network appliance the capability upgrade-related information; and

using the capability upgrade-related information at the network appliance to perform the upgraded capability.

72.   (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 71 wherein the upgraded capability is call forwarding.

73.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for accessing a web page stored on the network server with the network appliance, the web page having a link to stored information for configuration a parameter of the network appliance;

means for accessing the link to retrieve the stored information;

means for receiving at least a portion of the stored information with the network appliance;

means for parsing the at least a portion of the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

means for configuring the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

74.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for accessing a web page stored on the network server with the network appliance to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance;

means for receiving at least a portion of the stored information with the network appliance;

means for parsing the at least a portion of the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

means for configuring the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

75.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for accessing a web page stored on the network server with the network appliance;

means for causing the download and reception of at least a portion of the web page to the network appliance;

    means for reading a configuration value for a parameter of the network appliance from said non-volatile memory; and

means for writing the configuration value to a storage device associated with the web page.

76.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 73, further comprising:

means for creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

means for storing said profile in said non-volatile memory; and

means for using said profile.

77.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 74, further comprising:

means for creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

means for storing said profile in said non-volatile memory; and

means for using said profile.

78.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 75, further comprising:

means for creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

means for storing said profile in said non-volatile memory; and

means for using said profile.

79.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;

means for creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

means for storing the profile in said non-volatile memory;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for accessing a web page stored on the network server with the network appliance to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance;

means for receiving at least a portion of the stored information with the network appliance;

means for parsing the at least a portion of the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action;

means for reading the profile; and

means for configuring the network appliance in accordance with the profile by writing the configuration information derived from the stored information into said non-volatile memory in accordance with said action.

80.   (Previously Presented) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing firmware;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having links to current firmware for the network appliance stored on a network storage device;

means for determining the version of firmware stored on the appliance;

means for receiving at the network appliance a later version of the firmware if a later version of firmware is available via the web page; and

means for storing the later version in said non-volatile memory.

81.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein said means for determining includes:

means for obtaining a version identification corresponding to a firmware component currently available on the network storage device from the network server;

means for obtaining a version identification corresponding to the firmware component currently stored in said non-volatile memory; and

means for determining at the network appliance if the firmware component available on the network storage device is more current than the firmware component stored in said non-volatile memory.

82.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein said means for determining includes:

means for sending a version identification corresponding to a firmware component currently stored in said non-volatile memory from the network appliance to the network server; and

means for determining if the identified version has been superceded.

83.   (Previously Presented) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing a configuration profile and firmware;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for transmitting firmware revision information from the network appliance to the network server;

means for receiving a communication from the network server indicating the availability of a firmware upgrade; and

means for automatically receiving the firmware upgrade if the configuration profile permits such automatic reception.

84.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 83, further comprising:

means for presenting a user of the network appliance with an option to accept the firmware upgrade if the configuration profile does not permit automatic downloading.

85.   (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory;

means for configuring a profile stored in said non-volatile memory, the profile containing profile information;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for accessing a web page of the network server;

means for activating a link of the web page and thereby calling up a web form requiring filling in; and

means for transmitting data automatically from the profile information stored in said non-volatile memory in response to said means for activating so as to fill in at least a portion of said web form.

86.   (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

a non-volatile memory;

means for configuring a profile stored in said non-volatile memory, the profile containing profile information and a flag indicating whether the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for accessing a web page of the network server;

means for activating a link of the web page, said mans for activating causing a query for particular information contained in the profile information to be sent to the network appliance; and

means for transmitting the particular information automatically from the profile information stored in said non-volatile memory if the flag indicates that the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries.

87.   (Withdrawn) A configurable network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing upgrade-related information;

means for establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

means for accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having a link to capability upgrade-related information stored on a network storage device;

means for accessing said link;

means for receiving from the network server and storing in said non-volatile memory the capability upgrade-related information; and

means for using the capability upgrade-related information at the network appliance to perform the upgraded capability.

88.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein the upgraded capability is call forwarding.

89.   (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

        non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;

        a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server;

        a browser for accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having a link to stored information for configuring a parameter of the network appliance;

        a parser receiving and parsing at least a portion of the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

        a configurer writing configuration information derived from the stored information into said non-volatile memory in accordance with said action.

90.   (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

        non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;

        a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server;

        a browser for accessing and downloading at least a portion of a web page stored on the network server;

        a reader for reading a configuration value for a parameter of the network appliance from said non-volatile memory; and

        a writer for writing the configuration value to a storage device associated with the web page.

91.   (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

        non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;

        a profile creator for creating and storing in said memory a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server;

a browser for accessing a web page stored on the network server to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance;

a parser for parsing the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action;

a configurer responsive to the profile, the action and the identified configuration information for configuring the network appliance by writing the configuration information derived from the stored information into said non-volatile memory.

92.   (Previously Presented) A network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing firmware;

a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server;

a browser for accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having links to current firmware for the network appliance stored on a network storage device; and

a determiner for determining whether a more recent version of firmware is available on . the network storage device and causing such a more recent version to be downloaded to and received by the network appliance and stored in said non-volatile memory.

93.   (Previously Presented) A network appliance, comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing a configuration profile and firmware;

a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server and transmitting to the network server firmware revision information corresponding to installed firmware of the network appliance; and

a determiner receiving a communication from the network server indicating the availability of a firmware upgrade and automatically receiving and installing the firmware upgrade onto the network appliance if the configuration profile is configured to permit such automatic reception.

94.   (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

a non-volatile memory having stored therein a profile of the network appliance, the profile containing profile information;

· a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server; and

a browser for accessing a web page of the network server and activating a link of the web page so as to call up a web form requiring filling in, said browser automatically reading the profile information stored in said non-volatile memory and using it to fill in at least a portion of said web form.

95.   (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising

a non-volatile memory;

a configurer for configuring a profile and storing it in said non-volatile memory, the profile containing profile information and a flag indicating whether the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries;

a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server; and

a browser for accessing a web page of the network server, activating a link of the web page, said activating causing a query for particular information contained in the profile information to be sent to the network appliance, and transmitting the particular information automatically from the profile information stored in said non-volatile memory if the flag indicates that the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries.

96.   (Withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

a non-volatile memory;

a data communications device communicating with a network server;

a browser for accessing a link of a web page stored on the network server, the link referencing capability upgrade-related information stored on a network storage device;

a receiver for receiving from the network server, storing in said non-volatile memory and installing the capability upgrade-related information.

97.   (Withdrawn) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for configuring a

configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing configuration information, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server with the network appliance, the web page having a link to stored information for configuration a parameter of the network appliance;

accessing the link to retrieve the stored information;

receiving at least a portion of the stored information with the network appliance;

parsing the at least a portion of the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

configuring the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

98.   (Withdrawn) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for configuring a configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing configuration information, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server with the network appliance to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance;

receiving at least a portion of the stored information with the network appliance;

parsing the at least a portion of the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

configuring the network appliance by writing configuration information derived from the stored information into a local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

99.   (Withdrawn) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for uploading configuration information from a configurable network appliance to a network server, the appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing configuration information, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and the network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server with the network appliance;

downloading at least a portion of the web page to the network appliance;

reading a configuration value for a parameter of the network appliance from a local non-volatile memory associated with the network appliance; and

writing the configuration value to a storage device associated with the web page.

100.   (Withdrawn) A device in accordance with claim 97 wherein said method further comprises:

creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

storing said profile in local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance; and

using said profile during said configuring.

101.   (Withdrawn) A device in accordance with claim 98 wherein said method further comprises:

creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

storing said profile in local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance; and

using said profile during said configuring.

102. (Withdrawn) A device in accordance with claim 100 wherein said method further comprises:

creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

storing said profile in local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance; and

using said profile during said configuring.

103. (Withdrawn) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for configuring a configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing configuration information, said method comprising:

creating a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the network appliance;

storing the profile in the local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance;

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server with the network appliance to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance;

receiving at least a portion of the stored information with the network appliance;

parsing the at least a portion of the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action;

reading the profile; and

configuring the network appliance in accordance with the profile by writing the configuration information derived from the stored information into the local non-volatile configuration memory of the network appliance in accordance with said action.

104. (Previously Presented) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for

updating firmware of a configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing firmware, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having links to current firmware for the network appliance stored on a network storage device;

determining the version of firmware stored on the appliance;

receiving at the network appliance a later version of the firmware if a later version of firmware is available via the web page; and

storing the later version in the local non-volatile memory.

105.   (Previously Presented) A device in accordance with claim 104 wherein said determining further comprises:

obtaining a version identification corresponding to a firmware component currently available on the network storage device from the network server;

obtaining a version identification corresponding to the firmware component currently stored in local non-volatile memory of the network appliance; and

determining at the network appliance if the firmware component available on the network storage device is more current than the firmware component stored in local non-volatile memory of the network appliance.

106.   (Previously Presented) A device in accordance with claim 104 wherein said determining further comprises:

sending a version identification corresponding to a firmware component currently stored in local non-volatile memory from the network appliance to the network server; and

determining at the server if the identified version has been superceded.

107.   (Previously Presented) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for

updating firmware of a configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing a configuration profile and firmware, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

transmitting firmware revision information from the network appliance to the network server;

receiving a communication from the network server indicating the availability of a firmware upgrade; and

automatically receiving the firmware upgrade if the configuration profile permits such automatic reception.

108. (Previously Presented) A device in accordance with claim 107 wherein said method further comprises:

presenting a user of the network appliance with an option to accept the firmware upgrade if the configuration profile does not permit automatic downloading.

109. (Withdrawn) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for transmitting information from a network appliance to a network server, said method comprising:

configuring a profile stored in non-volatile memory of the network appliance, the profile containing profile information;

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page of the network server;

activating a link of the web page, said activating calling up a web form requiring filling in; and

transmitting data automatically from the profile information stored in the non-volatile memory of the network appliance in response to said activating so as to fill in at least a portion of said web form.

110. (Withdrawn) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for transmitting information from a network appliance to a network server, said method comprising:

configuring a profile stored in non-volatile memory of the network appliance, the profile containing profile information and a flag indicating whether the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries;

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page of the network server;

activating a link of the web page, said activating causing a query for particular information contained in the profile information to be sent to the network appliance; and

transmitting the particular information automatically from the profile information stored in the non-volatile memory if the flag indicates that the profile information may be used to automatically respond to queries.

111. (Withdrawn) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for obtaining a capability upgrade for a configurable network appliance having local non-volatile memory for storing upgrade-related information, said method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications session between the network appliance and a network server;

accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having a link to capability upgrade-related information stored on a network storage device;

accessing said link;

receiving from the network server and storing in the local non-volatile memory of the network appliance the capability upgrade-related information; and

using the capability upgrade-related information at the network appliance to perform the upgraded capability.

112.   (Withdrawn)   A device in accordance with claim 111 wherein the capability upgrade is call forwarding.

113.   (Withdrawn)   An Internet compatible telephone comprising:

non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;

a profile creator for creating and storing in said memory a profile containing a plurality of items of configuration information for the Internet compatible telephone;

a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server;

a browser for accessing a web page stored on the network server to retrieve stored information for configuration of a parameter of the network appliance;

a parser for parsing the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

a configurer responsive to the profile, the action and the identified configuration information for configuring the network appliance by writing the configuration information derived from the stored information into said non-volatile memory.

114.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 113, wherein the configuration information is accessible to the network server to provide customized services to the internet compatible telephone in accordance to the profile.

115.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 113, wherein the profile comprises an option feature.

116.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 115, wherein the option feature comprises a security scheme that prevents unauthorized modifications to the profile.

117.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 115, wherein the option feature comprises a monitoring module that checks the version of a feature on the Internet compatible telephone and alerts the user when a web page contains an upgrade to the profile.

118.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 113, wherein the profile comprises a support feature.

119.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 118, wherein the support feature is call waiting.

120.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 118, wherein the support feature is call forwarding.

121.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 118, wherein the support feature is last call returned.

122.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 118, wherein the support feature is email checking.

123.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 113, wherein the profile comprises a settings feature.

124.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 123, wherein the setting feature is an Internet Service Provider telephone number stored in the non-volatile memory.

125.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 123, wherein the setting feature is a user identification stored in the non-volatile memory.

126.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 125, wherein the user identification storage comprises a user name, a user street address, a user zip code, and a user telephone number stored in the non-volatile memory.

127.   (Withdrawn)   An Internet compatible telephone, comprising:
        non-volatile memory for storing configuration information;
        a data telecommunications device communicating with a network server;

a browser for accessing a web page stored on the network server, the web page having a link to stored information for configuring a parameter of the Internet compatible telephone;

a parser receiving and parsing at least a portion of the stored information to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany the action; and

a configurer writing configuration information derived from the stored information into said non-volatile memory in accordance with said action.

128.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 127, wherein the configuration information is accessible to the network server to provide customized services to the internet compatible telephone in accordance to the profile.

129.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 127, wherein the profile comprises an option feature.

130.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 129, wherein the option feature comprises a security scheme that prevents unauthorized modifications to the profile.

131.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 129, wherein the option feature comprises a monitoring module that checks the version of a feature on the Internet compatible telephone and alerts the user when a web page contains an upgrade to the profile.

132.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 127, wherein the profile comprises a support feature.

133.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 122, wherein the support feature is call waiting.

134.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 132, wherein the support feature is call forwarding.

135.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 132, wherein the support feature is last call returned.

136.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 132, wherein the support feature is email checking.

137.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 127, wherein the profile comprises a settings feature.

138.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 127, wherein the setting feature is an Internet Service Provider telephone number stored in the non-volatile memory.

139.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 127, wherein the setting feature is a user identification stored in the non-volatile memory.

140.   (Withdrawn)   The apparatus of claim 127, wherein the user identification storage comprises a user name, a user street address, a user zip code, and a user telephone number stored in the non-volatile memory.